

What's new at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.

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Newsletter #72:

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I hope you all had a nice week. Summer is in full swing now and for those of you that like soccer the FIFA World Cup is in its second day. I'm learning to embrace soccer since I have two sons and a husband that live for the games. So if you find time to get away from your TV set then here is what is going on this week in the world of Numismatics.

Künker Summer Auctions (Osnabrück, Germany from June 18-21)

Künker has a summer extravaganza of coin auctions for four days starting on Monday. The auctions do not have ancients on offer but for those of you interested in world coins opportunities are plentiful. Day 1 offers a large grouping of coins from Belgium in the area of the Brabant. Brabant was formerly in the territory of the Netherlands but in 1794 became part of modern day Belgium. On day 2 there is a collection of 461 coins from Braunschweig-Wolfenbüttel (lower Saxony Germany) from the collection of Friedrich Popkin. Day 3 is composed of mostly German world coins. Finally the last day has Chinese, Russian and Habsburg (Austria) coinage.

Künker will do an October auction week which I plan to attend. These auctions should include ancients. I'll start to take customer bids once the catalogs are printed but lookout for this. Osnabrück is not the easiest of cities to travel to but once there they are wonderful hosts and the auctions are exciting. Auction representation is the way to go for Künker principally because they offer NO internet bidding. The only way to bid real time is by phone or being in the room so I urge you to contact me if you have interest in Künker once catalogs are printed. My terms are very favorable for clients.

Rauch E-Live Auctions (Vienna, Austria from June 21-23)

Rauch has three days of auctions with 1,934 coins. Of these, 587 coins are ancient. Far different from Künker, Rauch is ONLY online for this group of sales (although they have live auctions). You may register online and bidding is at no additional costs. There were

some interesting pieces I noted so worth checking out. There were no specific notable collections offered.

Leu Web Auction 4 (Winterthur, Switzerland on June 24)

The newly formed Leu has their fourth web auction on June 24th with 1500 ancient coins. Leu is a new player in the coin market but they have done a great job of bringing some quality coins to the numismatic market. This auction is no different. No specific collections to note but there are pedigreed coins that are scattered throughout the sale. I plan to bid in the auction so please get in touch if you have interest.

Naville Auction 41 (London, England on June 24)

Naville, the e-auction arm of NAC and sharing office space with them in their London offices, are holding their 41st web auction. Naville has routinely been auctioning the large collections of Clain Stefanelli and Dattari along with other interesting pieces. This auction has 59 Clain Stefanelli coins. For those of you that aren't familiar with the husband and wife numismatists, they were curators at the Smithsonian Museum and had an extensive collection of their own. There are 83 Dattari coins on offer. I routinely bid in Naville sales so please get in touch if you need my assistance.

PNG Day at the ANA World's Fair of Money Philadelphia

This year the ANA will hold their annual show in Philadelphia from August 14-18. For those of us that are members of the PNG (I am a full member) we can exhibit at an "invitation only" show the day prior to the ANA. I have tickets that I can send you if you are interested.

I just locked in my table at the show which will be a corner booth (#1428) located in the Ancient/World section. I have the honor of sharing space with the ANS this year (they are in the booth right to me). I hope that you'll come to visit this show which hosts auctions, talks on numismatics, special exhibits and finally several hundred dealers of ancient, U.S., world and paper money from around the world.

Please contact me for more details and do let me know if you want to attend the PNG day so I can send you a ticket. If you only attend one day of the show then it is recommended to attend the ANA as there are fewer ancient dealers that are members of the PNG. On the other hand if you are planning to visit more than a day please get in touch because getting in early is a great way to secure the coins you want without the normal competition.



Coin of the Week

<https://www.shannaschmidt.com/roman-republic/l-plautius-plancus-rome-47-bc?rq=rr1076>

ROMAN REPUBLIC. L. Plautius Plancus. Rome, 47 BC

AR Denarius, 3.61g (16mm, 7mm). Facing mask of Medusa with disheveled hair; coiled serpents flanking / Victory (or winged Aurora) flying right, head slightly left, holding reins and conducting four rearing horses of the sun.

Price: \$1,750

The coinage of the moneyer L. Plautius Plancus is fascinating and has elicited several theories on why he chose the imagery he did. On the obverse of the coin is a mask of Medusa, a beauty turned into a gorgon by the enraged Athena when she broke a vow and married Poseidon instead of remaining celibate her entire life. The reverse shows a winged Aurora, goddess of dawn, holding the reins of four horses before her brother, the Sun.

The story in the year 442 BC, the Tibicines, flute players from Tibur, were offended by the Romans (in particular the stern senator Appius Claudius) when they were not permitted to eat in the Temple of Jupiter. They left immediately back to the town of Tibur. The Senators, which were fearful of the repercussions of this slight asked the Tiburtines to send back the Tibicines. It was then that a relative of L. Plautius Plancus, a certain C. Plautius, deceived Appius Claudius by devising a plan to get the Tibicines to return. When the Tibicines refused to return they instead held feasts in the homes of the Tiburtines. The Tiburtines gave the Tibicines lots of wine, making them drunk. Once they were asleep, they were loaded in waggons and taken to the Forum in Rome. To avoid arousing interest and being recognized they were put in masks and women's clothing. When they awoke they were surrounded by the Romans who greeted them cheerfully and welcomed them back to Rome. The Tibicines anger subsided and they agreed that every year for three days they would return to Rome, feast in the Temple of Jupiter and ramble around the city enjoying themselves. The festival Quinquatrus Minusculae was celebrated every June 13 to commemorate this day with the participants wearing masks as the Tibicines once did.

The coin with the Medusa head on the obverse is relatable to this story and the reverse with the allusion to the early arrival at dawn of the Tibicines back to Rome.

There is much speculation about whether the moneyer L. Plautius Plancus would have really known this history to reflect it on his coinage but the story is fun and gives more credibility to the themes that this moneyer.

*References: Crawford 453/1a-b CRI 29; Sydenham 959-959a; Plautia 15-15a; RBW 1583-4
Grade: Small indentation on cheek but otherwise well-centered and good strike. EF/aEF*

rr1076

<https://www.shannaschmidt.com/roman-republic/l-plautius-plancus-rome-47-bc?rq=rr1076>

If you are interested in this coin please click the link above or email me at shanna@shannaschmidt.com

Until next week!
Shanna

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